



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of :  
Markus Cech, et al. :Group Art Unit: 2833  
Serial No. 09/911,996 :Examiner: James R. Harvey  
Filed: September 24, 2001 :  
For PLUG-AND-SOCKET  
CONNECTION ELEMENT

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
WITHIN 3 MONTHS OF FILING OR PRIOR TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

S I R:

A list of documents on form PTO-1449 together with copies of each identified document and a translation or a concise explanation of each non-English language document is submitted in the above identified application in compliance with 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98. This paper is submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(b) (within three (3) months of the application filing date or prior to a first Office Action on the merits).

5/19/04

Date

Patrick R. Scanlon

Patrick R. Scanlon  
Reg. No. 34,500  
207-791-1276



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Serial No. 09/911,996

Atty. Docket No. 19361-495600

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :  
Markus Cech et al. : Group Art Unit: 2833  
Serial No.: 09/911,996 : Examiner: James R. Harvey  
Filed: September 24, 2001 :  
For PLUG-AND-SOCKET  
CONNECTOR ELEMENT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R:

The following concise explanation of relevance of foreign language documents is submitted with the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement:

The first foreign language document, EP 0926775, was cited in a search report issued by the European Patent Office in connection with the European patent application that corresponds to the present application. A copy of the search report is attached. The search report identified this document as being category "X" (particularly relevant if taken alone) with respect to claims 1, 2, 4 and 6-10 and category "A" (technological background) with respect to claim 3. The search report identified the whole document for the relevant passages.

The second foreign language document, FR 2,787,933, was also cited in the above mentioned search report. The search report identified this document as being category "X" (particularly relevant if taken alone) with respect to to claims 1 and 4-7. The search report identified the whole document for the relevant passages.



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Serial No. 09/911,996

Atty. Docket No. 19361-495600

A full text copy of the information cited is enclosed. It is respectfully submitted that this information be considered by the Examiner in the above identified application and made of record therein.

Respectfully submitted,

5/19/04

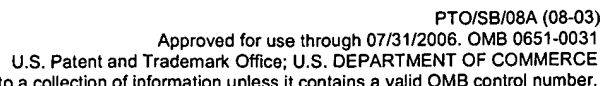
Date

Patrick R. Scanlon

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207-791-1276

**Complete if Known**

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet	1	of	1
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Application Number	09/911,996
Filing Date	September 24, 2001
First Named Inventor	Markus Cech
Art Unit	2833
Examiner Name	James R. Harvey
Attorney Docket Number	19361-495600

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	1	EP 0 505 199 A	09-23-1992	Yazaki Corp.		
	2	EP 0 926 775 A	06-30-1999	Verda S R L		
	3	EP 0 840 403 A	05-06-1998	Sumitomo Wiring Systems		
	4	FR 2 787 933 A	06-30-2000	Socomec SA		

Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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